



Crime Watch News

Long Beach Police Department . Crime Prevention Unit . 400 W. Broadway . Long Beach, CA 90802

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Braden Phillips
Bureau Chief
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Administrator
Community Relations Division

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Crime Prevention Unit
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COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION MEETING



Internet safety

"Protecting our kids, Keeping children safe on the Internet"

**Wednesday, May 17, 2006
7:00 P.M.**

**Long Beach Water Department
1800 East Wardlow Road**

Guest speakers:

Carol Baker, Director, Crime Prevention & Youth Services Bureau and
Mark Delgado, Supervisor, Community Outreach Unit,
from the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

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UPCOMING EVENTS/ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- ◆ Saturday, May 13, 2006, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
[K-9 Benefit Car Show - Sultans Car Club/Long Beach K-9 Officers Association](#)
Gemrig Park (LBPOA), 7390 East Carson Street, Long Beach
(Behind Lowes' Home Improvement & Wal Mart at the LB Town Center)
For further information contact: Vince (562) 432-0901
- ◆ Tuesday, May 16, 2006, 11:15 a.m. - Reception, 12:00 p.m. - Luncheon/Presentations
[Long Beach Police Department's 38th Annual Awards Ceremony](#)
Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center - 300 E. Ocean Boulevard
For further information, Contact Community Relations Office: (562) 570-7215
- ◆ Wednesday, June 21, 2006, 6:00 p.m.
[Neighborhood Watch Appreciation BBQ](#)
Long Beach Police Academy - 7290 East Carson Street, Long Beach
For further information, Contact: PSA Lisa Massacani (562) 570-7229



Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley created the Protecting Our Kids program



to help parents and other concerned adults safeguard the Internet activities of young people. Protecting Our Kids gives parents, school librarians, and other adults in charge of supervising children's online computer activities the tools needed to protect kids from online predators and prevent them from engaging in Internet crime.

Nationally, over 45 million children ages 10-17 use the Internet. Of these:

- One in four has encountered unwanted pornography.
- One in five has been sexually solicited.
- One in 17 was threatened or harassed in the past year.
- One in 33 received an aggressive sexual solicitation (were asked to meet someone in person, called on the phone, and/or sent correspondence or gifts) in the past year.
- Nearly 60 percent have received an e-mail or Instant Message from a stranger, and half responded to the stranger's message.

By understanding how to avoid the dangers of the Internet and how to take control of the family computer, parents can successfully keep criminal predators out of their homes and out of their children's lives.

Join us at our monthly Crime Prevention Meeting on May 17, 2006 and hear an important message from the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office on **"Protecting Our Kids, Keeping Children Safe on the Internet."**

INTERNET SAFETY Ten Things Parents Can Do

1. Talk with your children about their online activities and the risks and ethical responsibilities of surfing the Web. Tell them you have a responsibility to monitor their Internet use and that you will.
2. Keep the computer in a common room in your home and set time limits for its use.
3. Make sure your child knows never to divulge personal information as they surf the Internet.
4. Set rules as to what sites your children are allowed to visit and which ones they are not.
5. Tell your children to let you know immediately if a stranger tries to make contact with them on the Web.
6. Install an operating system that makes you the administrator of the family computer, enabling you to control Web browser settings, content that can be viewed online, and software that can be installed. Consider installing third-party filtering software.
7. Insist your children give you their e-mail and chat room passwords. Prohibit them from having multiple e-mail accounts.
8. Make sure your children know what online activities are against the law. Illegal activities include making threats against someone else online, hacking, downloading pirated software, creating bootlegged software, sharing music files online and (for children under 18) making purchases over the Internet.
9. Go online with your kids and find out who they send Instant Messages to and/or chat with. Do not allow your children to send Instant Messages during home-work-related computer time.
10. Regularly scan the files on your family computer to see what kind of material your children have downloaded and whether it was obtained legally.

38TH ANNUAL POLICE AWARDS LUNCHEON

On Tuesday, May 16, 2006, the 38th Annual Police Awards Ceremony will be held at the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center, 300 East Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach.



Juan Fernandez
CBS2/KCAL9 News

There will be a reception at 11:15 a.m., followed by lunch and the awards program at 12:00 noon.

This event publicly honors those brave citizens and police employees who have distinguished themselves by aiding their fellow men and women, often at great risk to their own personal safety.



Michele Gile
CBS2/KCAL9 News

Tickets are available in the Community Relations Division, 333 W. Broadway, Suite 100, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may be purchased for \$30 each or \$300 for a table of 10. Make your check payable to the City of Long Beach.

For further information, call the Community Relations Division at (562) 570-7215

Thieves Go “Phishing” for Your Identity

Corporal Harry Erickson, Long Beach Police Department

Looking out for you

Personal Security

Have you been phished, spoofed, cloaked or cloned lately? These are all terms associated with the latest hi-tech method of Identity Theft. A large number of our population utilizes e-mail on a daily basis. It is a fast, effective and convenient way of communicating with friends, family and business associates. If you have an e-mail account, chances are you have been the target of “phishing.” The term “phishing” is a variation of the word “fishing” as in “fishing for information”, used by computer hackers. A phishing scam utilizes an e-mail message to trick victims into revealing their personal financial information, ultimately leading to identity theft.

The Lure

The perpetrator first sets up a “clone” of a reputable company’s website, utilizing the actual graphics, font style, color scheme and logos to make a copy of that company’s website. They then pose as the reputable company and send out thousands, or even hundreds of thousands of random e-mail messages to potential victims. The message appears to be from the legitimate company. One such actual case involved the use of the Visa credit card company name. The email appeared to be from “notification@visa.com.” This is a very simple technique called “spoofing,” which can be done from most computers, by someone with basic computer knowledge. Most of the people who receive the e-mail don’t even have an account with the company who it appears to be from. However, based on the large volume of e-mails sent out, and the large customer base of the spoofed company, there is likely a good number of people who do have an account with that company. Out of the hundreds of thousands of e-mails sent out, if only a few people fall for it, the scam has paid off for the thief.

The Hook

The unsuspecting victim thinks that they have received a legitimate notification from their bank or other company who they do business with. The victim clicks on a link within the email message, which appears to direct them to the real company’s website. Remember, the thief has already set up a clone of the real company’s website somewhere out in cyberspace. Even the address in the browser bar appears to be that of the legitimate company. This is “cloaking.” The link is disguised something like “www.visa.com,” but really directs the victim to the thief’s cloned copy website. Once the victim is at the cloned website, there is a form for them to fill out, asking them to verify, or update their account information. Some phishing scams simply integrate graphics and a form into the e-mail message, eliminating the need to set up a cloned website.

The Catch

After the victim fills out the form and clicks “send,” the information is sent to the thief. The thief uses the information to open bank and credit card accounts and makes purchases under the victim’s name. The thief may also sell the victim’s information to other thieves. The thieves and computers used to commit these crimes can be stationed anywhere in the world, making apprehension and prosecution very difficult.

Protecting Yourself

If you receive an e-mail asking you for personal or financial information, **do not click on any links or fill out any forms within that email.** Legitimate companies will not request this information in an e-mail. If you get an e-mail which appears to be phishing for information, forward a copy if it to the Federal Trade Commission at spam@uce.gov. Be cautious of opening

any attachments within e-mails, regardless of who they appear to be from. These attachments can contain spyware or viruses which can monitor your computer activity without your knowledge. Use firewall and anti-virus software to protect your computer. They will not protect you from phishing scams, however, they are good at protecting you against virus and spyware intrusion.

If you wish to make a purchase online, make sure you are buying from a reputable company through a secure website. Secure web pages begin with “https” and there will be a security lock icon near the lower right area of your browser. Unfortunately, this can be forged as well, however, if you initiate the transaction with a known reputable company on their secure website, your information should be safe. Finally, if you think you have been the victim of a phishing scam, notify your bank and credit card companies right away and check your credit report for suspicious activity.

For more information on Identity Theft, or other crime prevention topics, contact the Long Beach Police Department’s Crime Prevention Unit at 562-570-7215 or visit them online at www.longbeach.gov/police.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SUCCESS STORY

This month's Neighborhood Watch Success Story recognizes a group in a busy area of the west side of the city, which originated years ago, but reorganized to better their neighborhood.. Please share your own Neighborhood Watch Success Story by sending an article to the Community Relations, or by email to Lisa_Massacani@longbeach.gov.

The 1000 and 1100 blocks of 16th Street had not had a Neighborhood Watch meeting in years, and the residents were noticing crime and quality of life issues increase. That is when Ted Caruthers, a property owner on the block, decided it was time that the residents to start meetings, and find ways to tackle these problems.

The group started the core meetings in January of 2005, and began communicating about common concerns they had about the problems on their street. People speeding up and down the street with stereos booming, juveniles meeting in an area park to fight or engage in alleged drug activity, and suspicious people loitering on the street were high on the list! A little over a month later, there were already positive changes taking place. In response to the group's concerns, and thanks to their input, the Patrol and Traffic Units worked this area, and as a result:

- 2 felony arrests were made
- 9 misdemeanor arrests were made
- 6 traffic citations were issued
- 4 cars were impounded
- 9 citizen contacts were made by the officers

Now, a little over a year later, the group continues to meet regularly. Block Captain Ted Caruthers keeps the group members motivated, and created a newsletter recently that listed some of their accomplishments: 2 successful clean-ups of the alleys and streets, red curbs on the end of their street to increase visibility when turning onto Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue to prevent collisions, established a relationship with the LBPD and with various City departments such as the Housing Department, Parks & Recreation, the Neighborhood Resource Center, and the City Prosecutor. The group is currently in the process of planning their first block party to celebrate their hard work! Good job!

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